

September 2, 1965

**FOREIGN AID PROGRAM USED AS A  
MEANS OF ATTEMPTED BLACK-  
MAIL**

(Mr. HALL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute; to revise and extend his remarks and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I believe most Members of this House were aghast and astonished by the news this morning, that our "foreign aid" giveaway program has been used as a means of attempted blackmail, rather than for the humanitarian reasons advanced every year as the basis for its conception.

I refer to the news that the U.S. Department of State was caught with its "petticoat" showing in Singapore. According to the Associated Press report, Singapore Prime Minister Lee demanded

\$33 million in foreign aid in 1960, in return for his Government's silence and the release of a CIA agent caught trying to buy information.

The United States countered with an offer of \$3 million, which Lee apparently regarded as an insult. When Lee made the charge this week, our State Department hastily called it false, then had to backtrack when Lee himself produced a letter from Secretary of State Rusk.

I am pleased to note that the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee plans to hold closed hearings to obtain an explanation from responsible officials. I hope they get more than pin-striped trouser doubletalk.

Perhaps one of these days the frequent calls for congressional investigation of the State Department will be heeded.

Certainly this latest incident is further proof that such an investigation is needed, and comes at a time just prior to this body considering our annual giveaway appropriation in our recurrent effort to buy image instead of commanding respect.